

Public Meeting and Comment Period

For the Proposed Plan for Remediation of the L.E. Carpenter Company Superfund Site Wharton Borough, Morris County

Public Meeting: Wednesday, December 8, 1993 at 7:00 P.M.
Wharton Borough Municipal Building
10 Robert Street
Wharton, New Jersey

Comment Period: Wednesday December 1, 1993 through
Friday, December 31, 1993

Site Background and Current Status

The L. E. Carpenter Site is located at 170 North Main Street, Borough of Wharton, Morris County, northwest of the intersection of the Rockaway River and North Main Street. Iron ore was extracted from mines on the property between 1850 and 1910. Several textile businesses operated at the site prior to 1943 when L.E. Carpenter began production of vinyl wall coverings. L.E. Carpenter's manufacturing process involved the generation of waste solvents, the collection of solvent fumes and particulate matter with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy (NJDEPE) permitted air pollution control devices, and the discharge of non-contact cooling water to the Rockaway River under a New Jersey Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Permit. Manufacturing operations continued at the site until 1987.

From approximately 1963 until 1970, L.E. Carpenter disposed its wastes, including a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) waste material, into unlined on-site impoundments. These impoundments are the main source of soil and ground water contamination at the site. NJDEPE has overseen activities at the L.E. Carpenter site since 1982 under various Administrative Consent Orders (ACOs). Current work is under the terms of a September 26, 1986 ACO between NJDEPE and L.E. Carpenter. Remedial Investigation (RI) activities were initiated in 1989 and completed in 1992.

In 1982, L.E. Carpenter removed 4,000 cubic yards of sludge and soil from the former surface impoundment. A passive recovery system, in operation since 1984 and upgraded in 1991, has removed more than 6,000 gallons of floating solvents (xylene, toluene and Bis 2-ethyl hexyl phthalate) from ground water on site. All underground and inactive above ground storage tanks and drummed raw materials have been removed from the site and several buildings have been decontaminated and demolished. A Proposed Plan for Final Site Remediation summarizing the results of site investigations and identifying the preferred remedy and the rationale for this preference has been completed by NJDEPE.

Preferred Alternative

On the basis of information contained in the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Reports, NJDEPE has selected the following Preferred Remedy for the L.E. Carpenter Company Superfund Site:

**Extraction and biological treatment of contaminated ground water after removal of all floating solvents.
Recharge of treated ground water through infiltration. Biological in-situ treatment of contaminated soils.
Excavation and off site disposal of isolated areas of metal and PCB contaminated soils. Institutional controls.**

(over)

**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy
Site Remediation Program
(609) 984-3081 • Bureau of Community Relations**



346099



Documents Available for Review in Repositories

The Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Reports, Proposed Plan and other site-related documents are available for review at the following locations:

Wharton Borough Municipal Building
10 Robert Street
Wharton, NJ 07885
(201) 361-8444

Wharton Public Library
1519 S. Main Street
Wharton, NJ 07885
(201) 361-1333

New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection and Energy
401 East State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625
(609) 984-3081

Community Role in the Remediation Process

NJDEPE and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) solicit public comments on the Proposed Plan during the public comment period which runs for 30 days from December 1, 1993 through December 31, 1993. No decision on remedial action will be made until all public comments are evaluated. The final decision document, the Record of Decision, will include a summary of both oral and written comments and the NJDEPE-USEPA responses to these comments. Written comments before and after the meeting should be directed to:

Grace L. Singer, Chief
Bureau of Community Relations
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy
CN 413
Trenton, NJ 08625-0413

If you have questions, please contact George Tamaccio, Community Relations Coordinator, at
(609) 984-3081

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy
Site Remediation Program
Bureau of Community Relations
CN 413
Trenton, NJ 08625-0413



Jonathan Josephs
Project Manager
USEPA, Region II
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY 10278

L. E. Carpenter Company Superfund Site Public Meeting Notice